



# Timely Tips

## Home Water Conservation Tips that Save

### Why Conserve?

1. For your pocket book. Conserving water year-round can help lower your water costs.
2. For our environment. Efficient outdoor watering helps to reduce runoff that pollutes local streams, lakes and wetlands. It also keeps more water in rivers for fish and wildlife habitat.
3. For our region. Our supply of clean drinking water is limited and must be shared. Your actions to use water wisely help ensure that we will have enough fresh drinking water for ourselves and future generations

### Free and Easy Steps to Conserve

- Wash only full loads of laundry in your washing machine or full loads of dishes in your dishwasher.
- Turn the water off. Minimize faucet use when shaving, brushing teeth and washing dishes. Replace older bathroom faucet nozzles (aerators) with new ones that are rated at 1.5 gallons per minute or less.
- Shorten your shower by one minute. Cut back on your shower time and rack up big savings in water and energy. If you really want to save water, limit shower time to five minutes or less. Also, install a water-saving showerhead that uses 2.5 gallons per minute.
- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues and similar waste in the trash.
- Take showers instead of baths. A bathtub holds up to 50 gallons of water – where a typical shower uses less than 20 gallons.
- Don't pre-rinse dishes. Check to see if your dishwasher can clean dishes without pre-rinsing them. Most newer dishwashers don't require pre-rinsing. Puget Sound Energy [www.pse.com](http://www.pse.com) offers rebates through December 31 on qualifying models.

cut along dotted line and keep these numbers as a handy reference guide to community services



# For the Fridge

## Reporting Identity Theft

### Credit Bureaus

**Equifax**.....[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
 To order credit report .....1-800-685-1111  
 To report fraud .....1-800-525-6285  
 Or, write: Equifax, P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241

**Experian**.....[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
 To order credit report or report fraud .....1-888-397-3742  
 Or, write: Experian, P.O. Box 1017, Allen, TX 75013

**TransUnion** ..... [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)  
 To order credit report .....1-800-888-4213  
 Or, write to: TransUnion, P.O. Box 1000, Chester, PA 19022  
 To report fraud.....1-800-680-7289  
 Or, write: Fraud Victim Assistance Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92634-6790

### For help in tracking stolen or misused checks

**TeleCheck**.....1-800-710-9898 or 927-0188

**Certegy, Inc.**.....1-800-437-5120

**International Check Services**.....1-800-631-9656

Call SCAN (1-800-262-7771) to find out if the identity thief has been passing bad checks in your name.

File a report with the Redmond Police Department (non-emergency).....425-556-2500

### File an identity theft report with the Federal Trade Commission

**Federal Trade Commission**.....  
 .....<http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft>  
 .....1-877-438-4338 (IDTHEFT)  
 .....202-326-2502 (TDD)  
 Or, write: Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

More information about reporting identity theft  
**Social Security Administration ID Theft Hot Line**  
[www.ssa.gov/oig/public\\_fraud\\_reporting/index.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/oig/public_fraud_reporting/index.htm)  
 .....1-800-269-0271  
 .....1-866-501-2101 (TTY)

**Washington Department of Licensing**.....360-902-3900  
 .....360-664-0116 (TTY)  
 .....[www.wa.gov/dol](http://www.wa.gov/dol)

**U.S. Postal Inspection Service** .....  
 .....[www.usps.gov/postalinspectors](http://www.usps.gov/postalinspectors)

*Unless otherwise noted, all area codes are (425).*

*Note: This list has been updated to reflect recent changes of which we've been made aware.*

# For the Fridge

## Web Site Guide

### Outside Services

**Animal Control and Services**  
[www.metrokc.gov/lars/animal](http://www.metrokc.gov/lars/animal)

**Attorney General**  
[www.atg.wa.gov](http://www.atg.wa.gov)

**Better Business Bureau**  
[www.thebbb.org](http://www.thebbb.org)

**Chamber of Commerce**  
[www.redmondchamber.org](http://www.redmondchamber.org)

**Child Care Referral**  
[www.childcare.org](http://www.childcare.org)

**Food Bank**  
[www.hope-link.org/programs/food.htm](http://www.hope-link.org/programs/food.htm)

**Solid Waste Disposal**  
<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/swdinfo/xfersta2.htm>

**Health Department**  
[www.metrokc.gov/health](http://www.metrokc.gov/health)

**Lake Washington School District**  
[www.lkwash.wednet.edu](http://www.lkwash.wednet.edu)

**Redmond Library**  
[www.kcls.org/red/redhomepage.cfm](http://www.kcls.org/red/redhomepage.cfm)

### Licenses

**Animal (King County)**  
[www.metrokc.gov/lars/animal/services/plindex.htm](http://www.metrokc.gov/lars/animal/services/plindex.htm)

**Auto (state)**  
[www.dol.wa.gov/cars.htm](http://www.dol.wa.gov/cars.htm)

**Drivers (state)**  
[www.dol.wa.gov/drivers.htm](http://www.dol.wa.gov/drivers.htm)

**Marriage (King County)**  
[www.metrokc.gov/lars/marriage](http://www.metrokc.gov/lars/marriage)

**NE District Court**  
[www.metrokc.gov/KCDC/redmond.htm](http://www.metrokc.gov/KCDC/redmond.htm)

**Post Office**  
[www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

**Property Tax Assessments (King County)**  
[www.metrokc.gov/assessor](http://www.metrokc.gov/assessor)

### Utilities

**Cable (Comcast)**  
[www.comcast.com](http://www.comcast.com)

**Telephone (Verizon)**  
[www22.verizon.com](http://www22.verizon.com)

**Electricity/Natural Gas (Puget Sound Energy)**  
[www.pse.com](http://www.pse.com)

# Timely Tips



## Spend a few \$ = big savings

**F**ix leaking faucets and toilets. Research has shown that an average of 8% (or more) of all home water use is wasted through leaks. Dripping faucets can be quickly identified (and repaired), but other leaks are less obvious.

### Testing for toilet leaks is easy!

- Remove the tank lid – don't worry, this water is clean until it enters the bowl.
- Add a few drops of food coloring or a toilet test tablet into the tank and wait about 30 minutes. During the wait, don't flush the toilet.
- After 30 minutes, look in the bowl. If you see colored water, you have a leak. If the water is clear, water is not leaking from the tank to the bowl. Toilet leaks can account for a daily water loss of 200 or more.

### Leaking faucets

A leaking faucet is often the result of a worn or bad rubber washer. The washer on a sink is typically located under the handle and is relatively easy to replace, if you have the right tools. It does require shutting off the water under the faucet and removing the handle. Local home centers can provide instruction on repairs faucets, or search the internet under "repairing leaky faucets" for helpful websites like [www.h2ouse.org](http://www.h2ouse.org).

Replace older toilets with new low-flow models that use 1.6 gallons per flush. Toilets 10 years old or older may be using three-and-a-half to seven gallons per flush.

For more water saving ideas, check out [www.bewatersmart.net](http://www.bewatersmart.net)



## Change Your Clock/ Change Your Battery

**W**hen you change your clock from Daylight Savings Time to Standard Time on October 24, don't forget to change the battery in your smoke detector. If batteries are old or missing, your detector will fail to alert you to smoke or fire.